

HPL Testing 2022 FAQ

What is HPL and how is it different from GATE at Shenton College?

The Gifted and Talented Program at Shenton College is a funded initiative. Places in the gifted and talented program are administered through through the Department of Education [<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/gifted-and-talented>] and successful students can be from outside the local catchment area.

Places in the Shenton College HPL are a school decision and students are selected through our portfolio entry process (<https://www.shenton.wa.edu.au/information/structure/academic-programs/hpl/>).

Both the HPL and GATE classes at Shenton College follow a differentiated curriculum, the HPL from Years 7-9, and the GATE cohort from Years 7-10. The HPL classes undertake some of the same activities as the GATE classes.

All students at Shenton College can access a range of co-curricular extension and enrichment opportunities such as clubs, competitions and activities. We pride ourselves in ensuring that enrichment and extension opportunities are available for all of our students

What is the Test?

The test this year is the CogAT Screening Form. The test measures **learned reasoning abilities** which are developed through in-school and out-of-school experiences.

The primary purpose of the CogAT Screening Form is to provide a quick, reliable, and valid data point to anchor other measures that inform our decisions on student placement in our HPL. Our other portfolio items, such as school reports and NAPLAN provide other measures.

The questions in the tests show how well students use their reasoning skills to solve problems **they have not been directly taught**. For this reason, the test questions do not parallel what the students are learning in school. **We do not expect students to revise for the test** – other than having a good night's sleep (and breakfast!).

Remember, we use these test results alongside other 'measures' like your child's school reports, their NAPLAN, and other information parents provide in what we refer to as our portfolio entry process

How long is the test?

We have allocated a rather generous 90 minutes for conducting the test on Sat 28th, which includes time for management of the students: registration of 200 students, seating of students, instructions, timed breaks between the three sections of the test, and the collection of papers).

Students should arrive at 9am and they can be collected from the venue at 10.30am.

The actual Test itself consists of 3 x 10 minute subtests.

Last year the administered test conducted online and was a longer and more comprehensive test - as we did not have NAPLAN testing results for the students – this year the test is much shorter and not online.

How can my child prepare?

This test does not assess specific knowledge or course content, so students need not revise any material for this test.

It is helpful if students are reminded of some general recommendations on how to approach multiple choice tests, including:

- Listen carefully to all instructions by the supervisor
- Ask the supervisor if you don't understand an instruction
- Read each question carefully
- Select the best answer from the options available in multiple choice format
- Stick to the recommended time as instructed
- Try to answer each question (avoid leaving blanks)
- Do not communicate with other students when in the testing room

What does my child need to bring? What is/isn't permitted in the test room?

Your child should bring a 2B pencil, sharpener and eraser for use on the test paper (it is a hard-copy test). Your child should also bring any personal medications they might need (for example Epi-pen, asthma inhaler) in accordance with a medical plan. They may also bring a water bottle. They may not bring mobile phones or watches into the test room.

Can parents stay on site?

Parents are asked to leave the school during the test, and are not permitted near the test rooms, or to communicate with their child during the test.

How can I share my child's medical action plan with the school?

Please contact us directly if your child has a particular medical action plan – email: sharon.ho@education.wa.edu.au

What accommodations are in place for students needing differentiated support?

We will provide special arrangements for any students requiring adjustments - please contact the school directly so we can discuss accommodations for your child - email: sharon.ho@education.wa.edu.au

What are the next steps for enrolment and when should I submit documentation to complete my child's the HPL portfolio?

All candidates sitting the test will receive specific advice on the HPL process via email.

Will there be a catch-up test for those who miss the May 28 TEST?

Yes, we will advertise an alternate test date in coming weeks.

If you know now that your child is unable to attend the May 28 Test, please let us know by emailing Sharon Ho at sharon.ho@education.wa.edu.au so that we can place you on a contact list.

Questions?

If you have additional questions, please email Sharon Ho. sharon.ho@education.wa.edu.au

